

**AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of recording information in an information recording medium, the method comprising:

a first step of outputting termination information indicative of termination of [[the]]  
an initialization of an information recording medium before said initialization starts; and

a second step of starting the initialization of the information recording medium at a predetermined timing after the output of the termination information.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the initialization comprises a formatting process and the predetermined timing is a receipt time of a format interrupt request of the information recording medium.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined timing is a receipt time of an ejection request of the information recording medium.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined timing is a time at which access to the information recording medium is not requested.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:  
a third step of creating, in response to an initialization information request for requesting information regarding the initialization before completion of the initialization, the information in which a formatting status and a data recording status are described and providing the provisional information in response to the initialization information request.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:  
a fourth step of interrupting the initialization in response to a write request for recording user data in the information recording medium; and  
a fifth step of restarting the initialization after the user data have been recorded in the information recording medium.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second step records predetermined management information in a lead-in area of the information recording medium.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information recording medium complies with a DVD+RW standard.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for recording information in an information recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

a termination information output part outputting termination information indicative of termination of ~~[[the]]~~ an initialization of an information recording medium before said initialization starts; and

an initialization part starting the initialization of the information recording medium by recording predetermined initialization information in a predetermined area in the information recording medium at a predetermined timing after the output of the termination information.

13. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the initialization request is issued by an external apparatus.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

a response part, in response to the initialization information request before completion of the initialization, creating the information in which a formatting status and a data recording status are described and providing the provisional information in response to the initialization information request.

15. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the initialization information request is issued by an external apparatus.

16. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:  
an initialization interruption part interrupting the initialization in response to a write request for recording user data in the information recording medium; and  
an initialization restart part restarting the initialization after the user data have been recorded in the information recording medium.

17. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the write request is issued by an external apparatus.

18-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium for storing a program to cause a control computer of an information recorder to execute a procedure of recording information in an information recording medium, the procedure comprising:  
a first step of outputting termination information indicative of termination of [[the]] an initialization of an information recording medium before said initialization starts; and  
a second step of starting the initialization of the information recording medium at a predetermined timing after the output of the termination information.

23. (Original) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the initialization comprises a formatting process and the predetermined timing is a receipt time of a format interrupt request of the information recording medium.

24. (Original) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the predetermined timing is a receipt time of an ejection request of the information recording medium.

25. (Original) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the predetermined timing is a time at which access to the information recording medium is not requested.

26. (Previously presented) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 22, the procedure further comprising:

a third step of creating, in response to an initialization information request for requesting information regarding the initialization before completion of the initialization, the information in which a formatting status and a data recording status are described and providing the provisional information in response to the initialization information request.

27. (Original) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 22, the procedure further comprising:

a fourth step of interrupting the initialization in response to a write request for recording user data in the information recording medium; and

a fifth step of restarting the initialization after the user data have been recorded in the information recording medium.

28-29. (Canceled)